

NIH/NSF Funding for Research Training and Career Development

- **Welcome**
Story Landis, NINDS
Thomas Insel, NIMH
- **NIH 101**
Margaret Jacobs, NINDS
- **Help, NIH!**
David Jett, NINDS
- **12 Step Program**
Nancy Desmond, NIMH
- **NSF is Different**
Diane Witt, NSF
- **It Can be Done!**
Luis Fernando Santana, U
Washington

NIH 101

Margaret Jacobs

**Acting Training Officer, NINDS-NIH-
DHHS**

Is this your view of the NIH?



Or maybe this?



Today's Goals

- 1. Demystify the NIH/NSF.**
- 2. Provide “insider” details on how grants are assigned to NIH institutes and study sections.**
- 3. Explain NIH grant review processes.**
- 4. Provide tips on how to improve YOUR chances of success.**

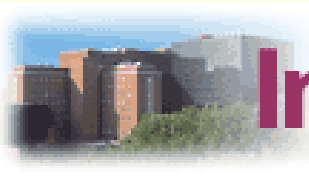
National Institutes of Health



Much of the biomedical research in the United States is supported by the Federal Government, primarily the National Institutes of Health (NIH)

National Institutes of Health (NIH)

- **27 Institutes or Centers**
- **Each Institute has its own mission**
- **Each Institute has its own budget**
- **Each Institute has its own activities**
- **Each Institute has its own ways of doing things**



Institutes, Centers & Offices

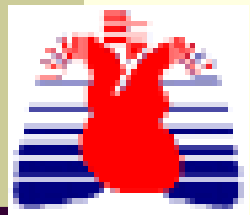
[www.\[Institute\].nih.gov](http://www.[Institute].nih.gov)



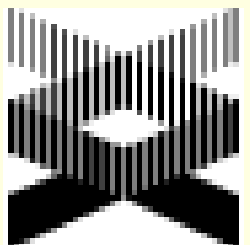
NIDA



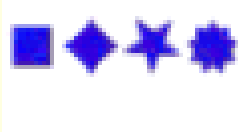
NEI



NHLBI



NHGRI



NIA



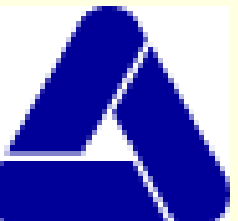
NIMH



NIAAAA



NINR



NIAMS



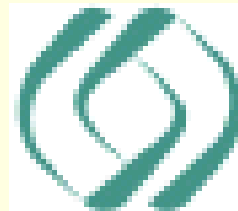
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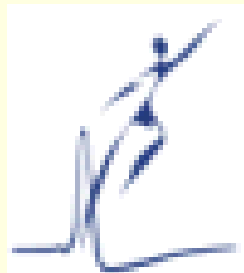
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NIDCR



NIDDK



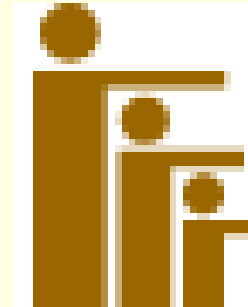
NINDS



NIEHS



NIGMS



NICHD



NIAID



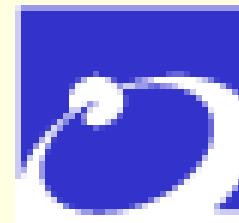
NLM



NIBIB



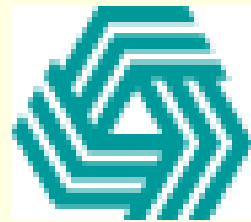
Clin. Ctr.



CIT



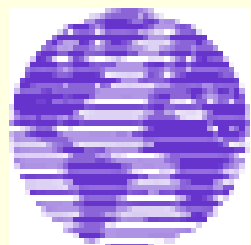
NCCAM



NCRR



NCMHD



FIC

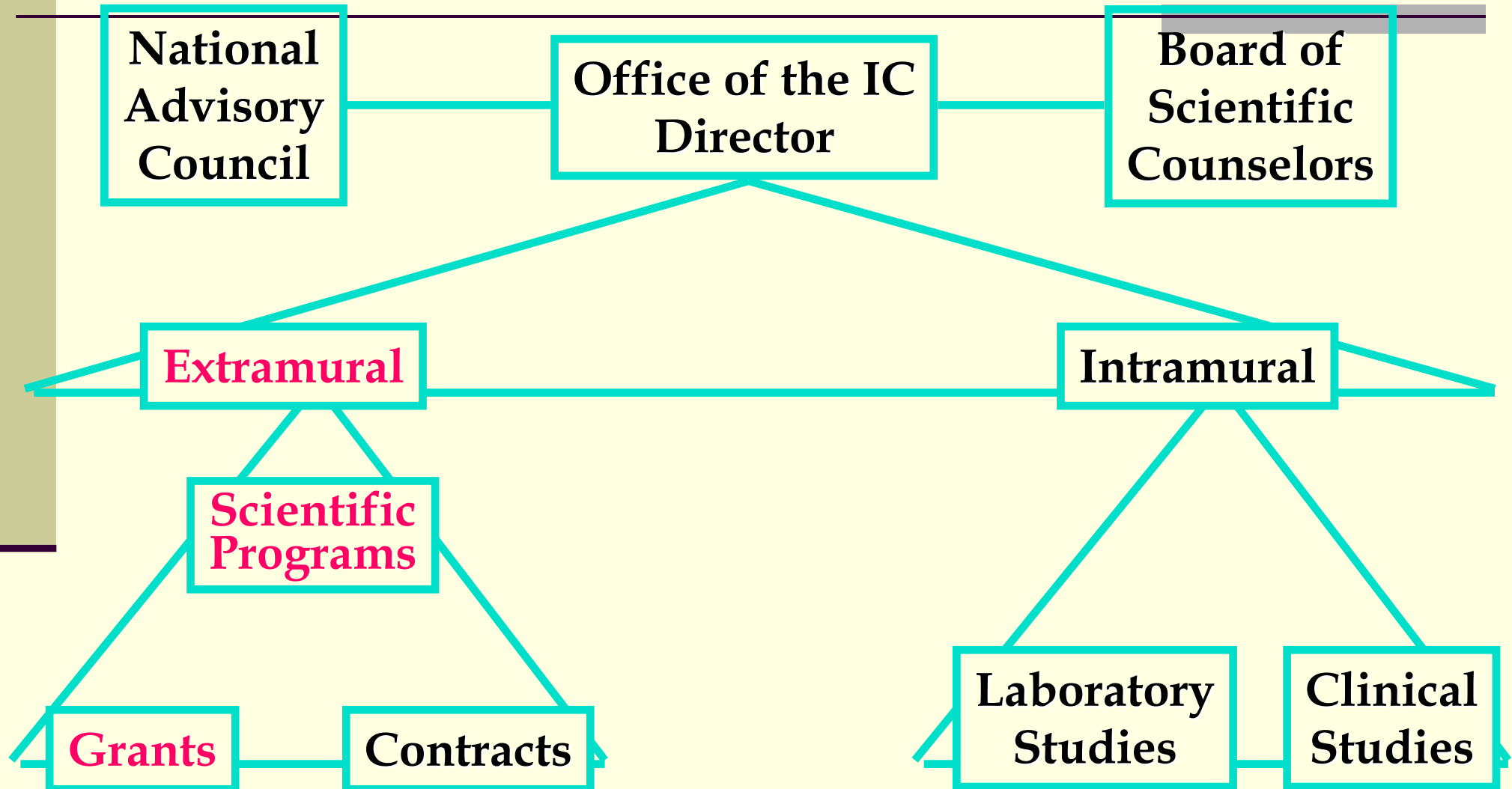


CSR

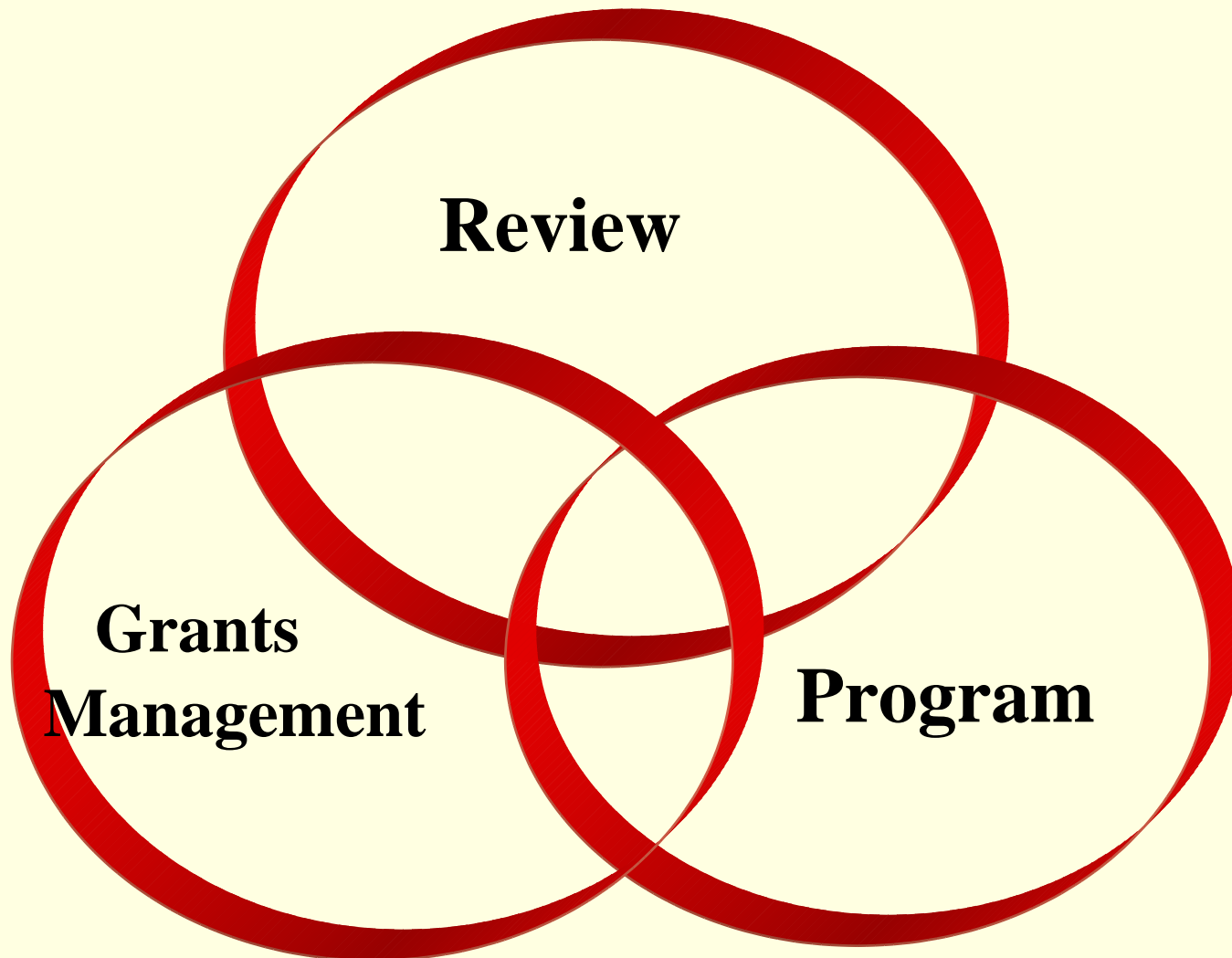
The National Institutes of Health

- NIH is part of a much larger federal government agency (DHHS).
- Congress “oversees” all federal agencies (and sets their budgets!)
- NIH is **NOT** immune to political pressures. It can be very useful to learn what areas are of current interest.

Institute Organization



The NIH Extramural Team



How NIH Supports Research

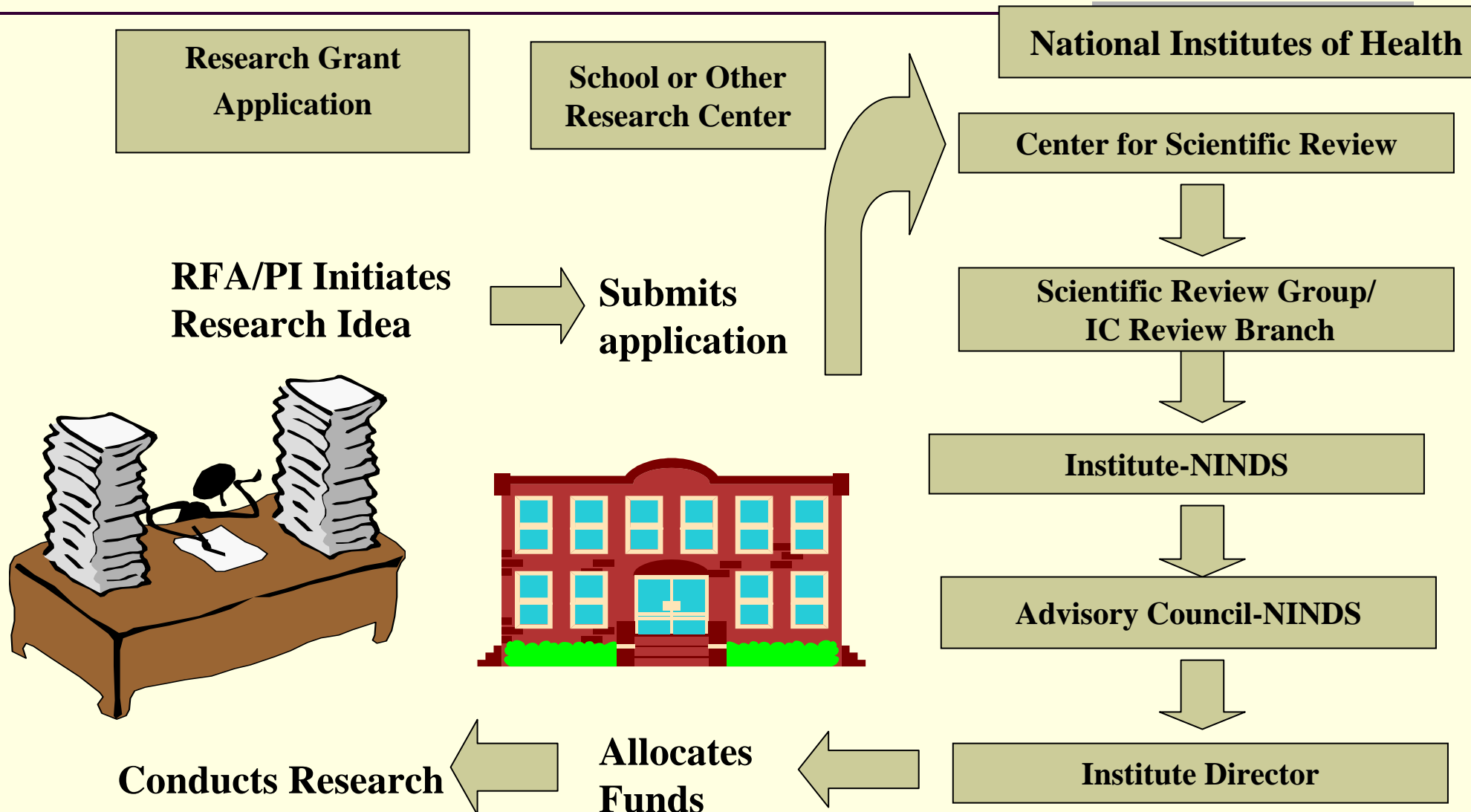
- **Grants**

- **Investigator-initiated research grants**
- **Program Announcements (PA)**
- **Request for Applications (RFA)**

- **Contracts (RFP)**

- **Cooperative Agreements**

Process for a Research Grant



What happens to my grant? (and why does it take so long?)

- **Receipt** (all applications initially land at the same loading dock).
- **Referral** (assignment to Institute and review group; can take up to 1 month).
- **Initial Review** (5-6 months after receipt).
- **Council Review** (7-8 months after receipt).
- **Award** (usually 9 or more months after receipt).

Applications Submitted to NIH

- Approximately 60,000 grant applications are submitted to NIH each year, of which 25-30% are funded
- Grant applications are received for three review cycles per year



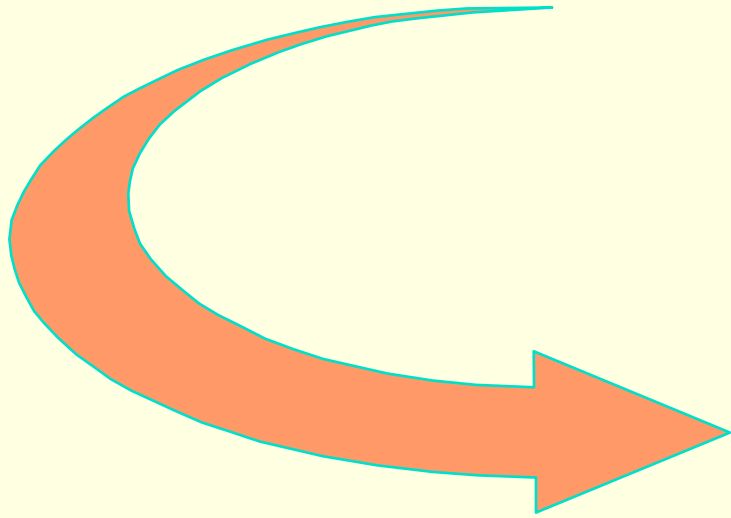
The Future: Electronic Research Administration (eRA)

- **NIH's vision for the 21st century.**
- **Infrastructure for conducting interactive electronic transactions for the receipt, review, monitoring, and administration of NIH grant awards.**
- **Integrates the external system, NIH eRA Commons and the internal system, IMPAC II.**

There are 2 Stages of Review

Scientific Review Group

- **Technical & Scientific Merit**
- **Rates Application; Makes Recommendations for Appropriate Level of Support & Duration of Award**



National Advisory Council

- **Assesses Quality of Review**
- **Makes Recommendation to Institute on Funding**
- **Evaluates Program Priorities and Relevance**
- **Advises on Policy & Strategy**

Assignment to a Review Group

- **Different Institutes use different mechanisms and use the same mechanism differently.**
- **An Institute may review a particular mechanism “in house” or at CSR.**
- **Assignment is the responsibility of CSR. Talk to Institute Program Staff to identify your best “target” review group and request it in the cover letter.**

Center for Scientific Review (CSR)

- **CSR has 20 clusters of study sections: Integrated Review Groups (IRG)**
- **Each IRG has review committees that are designed to overlap in expertise**
- **Rosters and descriptions can be found at <http://www.csr.nih.gov>**

“In House” Review Groups

- **Training and Career Development Awards**
- **Specific review criteria (Center Grants, Clinical Trials, Conference Grants, special programs)**
- **RFA's**

What does a Study Section look like?



Study Sections

■ Composition

- ~ 20% Assistant, ~40% Associate, ~40% Full Professor
- ~15% Minority, ~ 25% Female

■ Basic/Clinical ranges from 80/20 to 20/80

What is the Review Workload?

Committee

40 - 120 applications

Reviewer

- **Most reviewers have 3 -12 assignments**
- **Most applications have 3 reviewers
(primary and 2 secondary)**

What reviewers want to know

- **WHAT** are you proposing to do?
- **WHY** is this important?
- Can **YOU** do it?

Study Section Actions

- **Scored (priority scores and percentiles)**
- **Unscored (lower half)**
- **Deferral**

After Study Section Meets

- **Calculation of priority scores and percentile rankings**
- **Preparation of summary statements**
- **Council consideration**

What Is In the Summary Statement?

Dennis L. Glanzman, Ph.D. SUMMARY STATEMENT
(301) 443-1576 (Privileged Communication)
DGLANZMA@MAIL.NIH.GOV

Application Number: 2 R01 MH99999-06A1

DUAL PROGRAM CLASS CODE: CI10 B DUAL: NSDAEYAA
IFCN-5

Review Group: INTEGRATIVE/FUNC/COGNITIVE NEUROSCI 8

Meeting Dates: SRG: OCT/NOV 2002 COUNCIL: JAN/FEB 2003 BN-T
Requested Start Date: 04/01/2003

VANDERBILT, J. ARTHUR, PHD
UNIVERSITY OF SAN SIMEON
DEPT OF PHYSIOLOGY
10550 CASTLE ROAD
SAN SIMEON, CA 93452

Project Title: NEURAL CONTROL OF INVOLUNTARY EXUBERANCE

SRG Action: Priority Score: 138 Percentile: 3.5

Human Subjects: 10-NO HUMAN SUBJECTS INVOLVED

Animal Subjects: 30-ANMLS INV.-VERIFIED, NO SRG CONCERNS OR COMMENT

Summary Statement

- **Overall resume and summary of discussion**
- **Essentially unedited critiques**
- **Priority score and percentile ranking**
- **Budget recommendations**
- **Administrative notes**
- **Animal/human subjects concerns**

Response to Summary Statement

- **Cry, laugh, curse**
- **Advice from your colleagues**
- **Put it aside for a while**
- **Respond (respectfully)**

What Is “Council”?

- **Consists of senior members of the clinical, scientific, and lay communities.**
- **Advisory to Institute Director**
- **Principal focus is on policy/strategy.**
- **Particular emphasis of an Institute’s council is highly variable.**
- **Awards are not made until after Council.**

What Determines Which Awards Are Made?

- **Scientific merit**
- **Program considerations**
- **Availability of funds**

Take-home message

- **This can be confusing**
- **We are here to help**
- **CALL US** (before you submit, too)